

Masthead Logo

The Iowa Review

Volume 5
Issue 1 *Winter*

Article 20

1974

How They Left

Renee Wenger

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview>

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Wenger, Renee. "How They Left." *The Iowa Review* 5.1 (1974): 25-25. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.1615>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Review by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact lib-ir@uiowa.edu.

HOW THEY LEFT

This is how they left:

We made bad jokes over the dinner table.
No one was hungry.
In the cold car, going to the airport,
we stopped for every light. Traffic was heavy.
Rebecca was nervous. "We'll never get there," she said.
We got there.
It was very cold.
The wind blew through my fingers.
We waited at the airport three hours,
sitting, walking. Laurel bought a book.
The girls combed their hair.
The wind blew through my fingers.
I was frozen.
I sat like an ice statue and watched
the girls combing their hair.
Goodby. Goodby.
They walked through the door,
hair falling down their backs.
They flew through my fingers
into the night sky.